

MR urged to prepare for private-sector cooperation in railway operations

Efforts should be made to ensure that the public can confidently rely on and widely use rail transport.

MYANMA Railways is set to mark its 150th anniversary in 2027, and it is believed that the rail transport system, which has been in existence for nearly 150 years, should be further developed and improved beyond its current state, said President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing during his inspection tour of the new Locomotive Assembly Factory (Nay Pyi Taw) of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Department of Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Transport in Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, yesterday morning.

Before the meeting, the President inspected efforts made for the development of the rail transport at the factory.

At the meeting hall of the factory, the President, in his speech, underscored that only when railway tracks are of sufficient quality and meet required standards can trains be operated at high speed; therefore, efforts must be made to upgrade the railway infrastructure.

In the future, he noted that it is also necessary to carry out preparatory measures to enable railway operations to be implemented in cooperation with the private sector.

He continued that efforts should be made to ensure that the public can fully rely on and confidently use rail transport.

The President pointed out that at present, **due to changes in global political conditions, fuel shortages are being encountered. In such circumstances, efforts must be made to improve public transport services for the benefit of the general public.**



President U Min Aung Hlaing inspects the interior of a train carriage during his tour of the new Locomotive Assembly Factory (Nay Pyi Taw) yesterday.

He underscored that **efforts should be continued to upgrade railway services in order to increase public reliance on the railway transport system.** If transport can be made faster and more efficient, the number of railway passengers will increase. It is also necessary to ensure the continuous transport of goods along the country's key railway lines, which are of vital importance to the nation.

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Key points from the speech delivered by the President on the inspection of the MR

1. It is necessary to carry out upgrading works on the Zeebingyi-PyinOoLwin-Nawngkhio-Hsipaw railway line and the Thazi-Kalaw-Taunggyi-Nawngkhio railway line.
2. The Yangon-Pyay section should be upgraded to a double-track line.
3. The Pyay-Bagan railway line should be renovated and upgraded so that train passengers can travel to and visit the pagodas and ancient cultural heritage sites in the Bagan archaeological zone.
4. Officials need to identify the advantages and disadvantages of operating trains using battery-powered locomotives and electric overhead line systems.

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Frontline troops welcomed back after security duties

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Myanmar, India, Thailand launch joint UNESCO World Heritage bid for Mahabodhi temples



Images highlight the joint efforts of Myanmar, India, and Thailand in submitting a tentative list for the transnational nomination of Mahabodhi temples in the Indian Ocean region.

in Yangon, the officials from the Yangon, Bagan, and Bago branches, along with representatives from the Bagan Heritage Trust and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), led by the Deputy Director-General (Museums) and archaeological advisor Dr Thein Lwin, discussed the drafting of the nomination dossier, boundary maps, the selection of criteria, data assessment, and the collection of photographic, video



MYANMAR, India, and Thailand are collaborating to submit a tentative list for the transnational nomination of Mahabodhi temples in the Indian Ocean region to the UNESCO World Heritage List. The three countries are working together on a “serial nomination” for the Mahabodhi temples, which includes the Mahabodhi temples in Bagan and Bago in Myanmar; the Mahabodhi Temple in Bodh Gaya in India, and Wat Chet Yot (Wat Ched Yod) in Chiang Mai in Thailand, according to U Nyi Mon, director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch).

The department prepares the necessary documentation, conducts preservation and research, and facilitates coordination meetings to ensure the

success of the nomination. On 9 March, a meeting was held at the Bagan Branch office with the members of the Mandalay Region Cultural Heritage Preservation Committee, the Mahabodhi Temple Board of Trustees, representatives from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), and officials from the Bagan Branch.

To facilitate the submission of the tentative list, teams formed by the Department are currently gathering data, documenting sites, capturing drone footage, and preparing maps.

From 20 to 22 April 2026,

documentation and preservation. They also conducted a field visit to the Mahabodhi temple in Bago.

Preserving national heritage sites and working toward the inclusion on the World Heritage List helps safeguard national prestige. Therefore, the public is encouraged to cooperate in preserving and protecting heritage sites for long-term sustainability, enhancing national pride, promoting tourism development and increasing State income through collective participation and conservation efforts. — Dipa Lin/KTZH

Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area Condition

Issued at 4 pm MST on 14 May 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over the Southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Westcentral Bay of Bengal still persists. — DMH

Pyigyimandaing residents earn steady income from Tanyin fruit sales

PEOPLE living in Pyigyimandaing, Bokpyin District, Taninthayi Region, earn their livelihoods not only through perennial and seasonal orchard cultivation but also by collecting and selling seasonal forest products from the surrounding natural forests.

At present, residents are receiving good prices for Tanyin fruit, enabling them to earn a steady income.

Tanyin trees grow naturally in the forests around Pyigyimandaing. The leaves of the tree are available throughout the year, while the flowers begin to bloom towards the end of the cool sea-

son and later develop into fruit. As the fruits are now ripening, locals are harvesting and selling them. A condensed milk tin of Tanyin fruit is selling for up to K1,000, while one ‘Pyi’ fetches up to K8,000.

The locally known ‘Tanyin’ tree produces flowers, leaves and fruits, all of which can be prepared and eaten in various ways. Young fruits can be cooked as a curry, while ripe fruits are boiled and eaten as a snack. — Pyigyimandaing IPRD/MKKS



Photos feature a Tanyin plantation in Pyigyimandaing, highlighting thriving Tanyin fruit in close-up view.

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.



Thai Expo Yangon 2026 set for Jun

THE Thai Expo Yangon 2026, featuring a wide range of leading businesses from Myanmar, is scheduled to be held from 5 to 7 June with free admission.

Taking place at the Yangon Convention Centre (YCC), located at the Inya Lake Hotel Compound in Yangon, the event will run from 9 am to 5 pm.

Foods, beauty and health services, household appliances, high-tech devices,

education services, textile and consumer products, electronic devices, housing projects and tourism services will be displayed.

In addition, visitors can enjoy other interesting activities such as Thai cultural dance performance, cooking show, makeup show, singer show, lucky draws, product show, seminar, game activities and panel discussion sessions. — Htun Htun/ZS

Myanmar actor Paing Takhon promotes the Thai Expo Yangon 2026.

NATIONAL

MR urged to prepare for private-sector cooperation ...



President U Min Aung Hlaing hears reports on railway and bridge construction, locomotive and carriage production, operation of DEMUs and battery electric trains, railway repairs, and training programmes conducted by Myanma Railways.

“ ... at present, due to changes in global political conditions, fuel shortages are being encountered. In such circumstances, efforts must be made to improve public transport services for the benefit of the general public.

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He also noted that priority must be given to upgrading the Yangon-Mandalay, the Yangon-Mawlamyine and the Yangon-Pyay railway sections, adding that **no matter how good the train carriages are, they will not be effective or efficient if the railway tracks are not in good condition.**

He recounted that when upgrading railway lines in phases, it was previously carried out using loans from Japan. However, due to various reasons, the project was delayed, and later the upgrading works were continued using state budget.

The President stressed that the upgrading of the existing 75-pound rails is also being given priority, and plans should continue to be made and implemented to enable the use of 110-pound rails.

He gave guidance that, along with upgrading railway lines, all related infrastructure, such as station platforms, level crossings, bridges, and other possible facilities, should also be studied, assessed, and systematically upgraded. It is also necessary to ensure that platforms and train floors are level.

Moreover, the President underlined that efforts must be made to ensure systematic organization along the Yangon circular railway route, and in the future, comprehensive research and calculations should be carried out to enable the construction and use of tubes.

He continued that at present, battery electric locomotives (BEL) and battery electric multiple units (BEMU) are being constructed. In carrying out these activities, it is necessary to ensure that they are

implemented in a systematic manner.

Regarding railway carriages, the President provided the following guidance that it is necessary to establish a standard that is suitable for Myanmar. In the future, if private railway operations emerge, they must also comply with the established standards.



eign tourists. In addition, the Pyay-Bagan railway line should be renovated and upgraded so that train passengers can travel to and visit the pagodas and ancient cultural heritage sites in the Bagan archaeological zone.

He also instructed that it is necessary to carry out upgrading works on the Zeebingyi-PyinOoLwin-Nawngkhio-Hsipaw railway line and the Thazi-Kalaw-Taunggyi-Naungka railway line, and to ensure that train services can operate regularly.

The President and party watched a documentary video clip on the progress of Myanma Railways.

Union Minister for Transport and for Digital Development and Communications U Mya Tun Oo and officials of

Communications, and attending of Tatmadaw members at the training courses conducted by Myanma Railways.

In response, the President noted that when upgrading railway lines and constructing new stations, it is necessary to carry out proper planning and calculations in advance before construction. By doing so, maintenance and repair costs can be significantly reduced. It is also necessary to restore and operate steam locomotives to attract both domestic and international tourists.

Moreover, he urged all to identify the advantages and disadvantages of operating trains using battery-powered locomotives and electric overhead line systems.

In the future, he noted that

... no matter how good the train carriages are, they will not be effective or efficient if the railway tracks are not in good condition.

Regarding railway line upgrading and new construction works, the President highlighted that the Yangon-Pyay section should be upgraded to a double-track line. Efforts are also being made to construct a railway line that can extend from Yangon to Mawlamyine, Ye, and Dawei. In the Ye-Dawei section, it should be developed into a route that is better than the existing line, running along the coastal area and becoming an attractive route for for-

Myanma Railways reported on construction of new railway sections, bridges and railway stations from 2021 to 2026, assembling of new locomotives, production of battery electric locomotives and running, renovation of steam locomotives, running of DEMUs, construction of locomotives and carriages, construction of the Battery Electric Multiple Unit (BEMU), repairs of railway sections and bridges, facts about the Central Institute of Transport and

it is also necessary to carry out preparatory measures to enable railway operations to be implemented in cooperation with the private sector.

The President observed the construction of Battery Electric Multiple Unit (BEMU), Battery Electric Locomotives (BEL), and battery carriages.

He gave guidance on the construction of BEMUs to be used at the Yangon circular railway and short and long sections. — MNA/TTA

... efforts should be continued to upgrade railway services in order to increase public reliance on the railway transport system.

NATIONAL

Hluttaw Reps Urged to Fulfil Election Pledges to the Public

HLUTTAW representatives need to emphasize fulfilling the trust and expectations placed in them by the voters who elected them, said U Khin Yi, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, at a meeting with Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and region Hluttaw representatives at Bo Min Yaung Hall in the Magway Region Hluttaw building yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker said that as the primary responsibility of the Hluttaw is legislation, greater efforts must be made in its term to amend, supplement, and enact laws that will contribute to national development and benefit the public.

He stressed that the Hluttaw needs to assess the current situation and consider enacting new laws that can ensure the public is able to live safely and securely in their daily social and economic lives.

He underscored that the Hluttaw must review the previously repealed laws for the sake of national security, public peace and stability. Committees formed



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi meets Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Region Hluttaw representatives in Magway Region yesterday.

at the Hluttaw must contribute much to Hluttaw processes.

He continued that as Hluttaw is a member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, cooperation with these organizations must be maintained, and Hluttaw representatives are required to carry out their responsibilities with broad perspectives and outlooks.

He noted that as the government is implementing the 100-day plans for development of the State, Hluttaw representatives need to cooperate with the government in sustainable development and local development in their respective sectors.

The Speaker underlined that to help the public gain greater awareness of and interest in the role of the Hluttaw, arrangements

should be made so that people from all sectors of society, including both young and old citizens as well as organizations working for the national interest, can directly observe Hluttaw activities. It is also necessary to ensure that Hluttaw activities are accurately and promptly released through newspapers and media outlets.

He urged Hluttaw representatives to work together to ensure

that the legislature becomes a trusted law-making body for the public by promptly implementing, within the Hluttaw, the commitments they made to voters in their respective constituencies during the election campaign.

The Hluttaw representatives reported on the difficulties in opening Hluttaw representative offices and the requirements of constituencies. The Magway Region Hluttaw Speaker and officials responded to the discussions, and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker coordinated the measures.

The Speaker held a meeting with the Region Hluttaw Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, the committee chair and the secretary. Region Hluttaw Speaker Dr Maung Maung Htay reported on the formation of the committees at the regional Hluttaw, their responsibilities and powers. The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker gave instructions.

After the meeting, the Speaker inspected the convention hall of the Magway Region Hluttaw building. — MNA/TTA

Central Body for Summoning People's Military Servants discusses recruitment, job opportunities

UNION Minister for Defence General Tun Aung, in his capacity as Chairman of the Central Body for Summoning People's Military Servants, presided over the second coordination meeting of the central body in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, the Union minister said the People's Military Service Training has concluded 22 batches, and those completed the training serve the state in defence and security duties diligently. Among them, 115 individuals have received

gallantry medals, certificates of bravery, honorary certificates, and commendation certificates from senior leaders. At present, two training batches are underway.

Regarding the summoning process, he stressed that the Nay Pyi Taw Council, region and state bodies need to compile and register accurate lists of eligible individuals within their respective areas by cooperating with the Department of Population, Ministry of Immigration and Population. Arrangements must also

be made to summon registered individuals on a rotational basis.

He continued that those who completed their service are now being assisted in obtaining relevant training and employment opportunities in government service, overseas jobs, company employment, private sector jobs, and self-employment businesses.

Members of the central body and Nay Pyi Taw, Region/State committees' chairpersons and officials reported on the matters related to military training. — MNA/KTZH



Union Defence Minister General Tun Aung addresses the coordination meeting of the Central Body for Summoning People's Military Servants.

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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NATIONAL

MoFA Union Minister receives Russian Ambassador to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe received Mr Iskander Azizov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially exchanged views on preparations for the ASEAN-Russia Commemorative Summit to mark the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-Russia Relations in 2026 and the advancement of ASEAN-Russia

Strategic Partnership.

Furthermore, they also discussed ways to further strengthen the longstanding friendly relations and intensify cooperation in various sectors between Myanmar and the Russian Federation. — MNA

Russian Ambassador Mr Iskander Azizov calls on Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe yesterday.



Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Impact-Based Forecasting held



The Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF) is underway yesterday.

THE opening ceremony of the Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF) was held in the Multi-Hazard Early Warning Centre, Nay Pyi Taw, organized by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH), Ministry of Transport, yesterday.

At the opening ceremony, Dr Kyaw Moe Oo, Director-General of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, delivered the opening remarks.

Departmental representatives from Disaster Management, Public Health, Agricul-

ture and other related sectors, partner organizations and officials from the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology attended the workshop with a total of about 50 participants. In addition, technical experts from RIMES and the UK Met Office participated virtually in the discussions.

During the Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF) for Temperature-Related Hazards, discussions were conducted on Impact Thresholds for temperature-related hazards and Action Triggers to be undertaken by relevant

sectors. The participants also discussed Lead Time for issuing Impact-Based Forecasts (IBF) and sectoral coordination mechanisms. In addition, sector-wise discussions were carried out on the potential impacts of temperature-related hazards on public health, agriculture, disaster management and socio-economic sectors. Vulnerable groups and exposed resources were identified, and Exposure and Vulnerability data related to temperature-related hazards were shared and discussed for integrated utilization and coordination. — DMH

YGH OPD provides free hepatitis C treatment every Friday

YANGON General Hospital has announced that a hepatitis C clinic is now open every Friday at its Specialist Outpatient Department, offering medical care free of charge.

The clinic operates from 1 pm to 4 pm every Friday. The free services provided include viral load testing for diagnosed patients, antiviral medication for treatment, and follow-up testing three months after the completion of treatment to verify the success.

Public reactions have been positive, with comments such as “So happy. Treating hepatitis C on our own is extremely expensive, so thank you to all”, “May those who cannot afford recover; we

are very grateful,” and “This is wonderful news.”

Hepatitis C treatment in Myanmar began in 2017 under a national control project, which provides free medications nationwide.

According to the latest estimates from the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization, approximately 1.1 million people in Myanmar are living with chronic hepatitis C. This accounts for roughly 2.7 per cent of the population. Hepatitis C is a common blood-borne viral liver disease. Most people infected are unaware they have the virus. It is primarily spread through blood-to-blood contact and the use of injections. — ASH/MT/ZN



Patients are seen receiving medical care at the OPD of Yangon General Hospital.

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NATIONAL

MoH launches AI-based Heart Disease Risk Assessment System Project

A ceremony to announce the launch of the Heart Disease Risk Assessment System Project, one of the projects to be implemented within the first 100 days of the new government, was held yesterday morning at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Health.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win, the deputy minister, and professors from hospitals participating in the project.

At the ceremony, the Union minister said that cooperation in implementing the Heart Disease Risk Assessment System Project would further strengthen friendship and healthcare cooperation between Myanmar and China.

Afterwards, Mr Hu Cheng, Vice-President of Shenzhen Benefm Medical Science and



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win attends the inauguration ceremony of the Heart Disease Risk Assessment System Project yesterday.

Technology Company, explained matters relating to the project, while Dr Nwe Nwe, Professor and Head of the Cardiology Department at Yangon General

Hospital, presented the implementation process of the Heart Disease Risk Assessment System Project.

A video presentation was

then shown demonstrating the heart disease risk assessment system, including the use of wearable AI ECG-equipped garments and software analysis

to assess patients' risk of heart disease.

The "Myanmar Heart Disease Risk Assessment System Project" is a Myanmar-China cooperative programme that will be implemented over one year for 100,000 people at the Yangon General Hospital, Mandalay General Hospital, Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital, North Okkalapa General Hospital and Kanthaya Hospital. Efforts will continue to expand the programme nationwide.

People at high risk of heart disease, athletes, pilots, long-distance highway drivers and passenger bus drivers will be able to use comfortable wearable garments equipped with AI ECG devices to undergo continuous 24-hour heart disease risk monitoring without disrupting their daily activities. — MNA/KNN

Yangon air quality report released for 13 May 2026

THE Environmental Conservation Department released a statement on the monitoring and analysis of ambient air quality in Yangon on 13 May 2026.

The Environmental Conservation Department in Yangon is conducting 24-hour monitoring and analysis of urban air quality at three monitoring sites across the city.

Using Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station with Mobile Car (AQMS Mobile Car) and Compact Air Quality Monitoring Station (AQM 65) equipment, the department is measuring six key parameters – PM2.5, PM10, sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ozone (O₃) and carbon monoxide (CO).

No	Air quality monitoring locations in Yangon Region	Measured parameters					
		PM2.5 (fine particulate matter – 2.5 microns)	PM10 (particulate matter – 10 microns)	Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	Ozone	Carbon monoxide
1	Botahtaung Township, Yangon	Good					
2	International Business Centre, Hline Township, Yangon	Good					
3	Dagon Township, Yangon	Good					

Air Quality Index - AQI

0-50	Good air quality
51-100	Acceptable air quality
101-150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
151-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very unhealthy
301-500	Hazardous

The Environmental Conservation Department said ambient air quality results may vary depending on air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, humidity, rainfall conditions, vehicle usage, dust dispersion caused by hot and dry weather, emissions from factories and surrounding environmental conditions near monitoring stations.

Environmental Conservation Department

Over 200 Myanmar EPS workers despatched to ROK this month

MORE than 200 Myanmar EPS workers were dispatched to the Republic of Korea this month under the management of the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA), according to the Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea.

100 New manufacturing workers were sent by Korean Air KE492 on 6 May; five service workers – four men and one woman – and two agricultural workers, totalling seven, were sent by Singapore Airlines SQ608 on 12 May; and 101 manufacturing workers and 11 construction workers, totalling 112, were sent by Korea Air KE492 on 13 May.

The labour attaché from the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul welcomed workers and supported assistances they needed. Upon their arrival, Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung greeted them via video call and urged them to call the embassy if they had difficulty.

He also spoke with officials from the Human Resources Development Service of Korea about work that requires coordination and urged them not to hesitate to contact the embassy if there is an issue, said the embassy. — MT/ZS



New Myanmar EPS workers are seen arriving at the Incheon International Airport on 12 May.

NATIONAL

Frontline troops welcomed back after security duties

FRONTLINE Tatmadaw personnel who returned after carrying out security duties and military activities in the Phalu and Minletpan areas of Myawady Township were welcomed back at a local battalion in Hlaingbwe Township on 14 May.

South-East Command Commander Brig-Gen Thura Zaw Lwin Soe, regional ministers, departmental officials, members of the Myanmar Police Force, war veterans, People's Militia members and ethnic

residents attended the ceremony.

Attendees welcomed the returning troops with victory garlands and traditional ethnic performances in recognition of their duties for regional peace, stability and public security.

The commander delivered a congratulatory speech and presented honorary cash awards to the returning personnel before joining them for a special lunch. — MNA/KZL



Triumphant Tatmadaw members are seen being warmly welcomed back at the South-East Command Headquarters.

10 Chinese online scammers, gambling items seized in Shan State (North)



Images depict detained Chinese online scammers and confiscated scam-related materials.

MYANMAR authorities arrested 90 Chinese online scammers and gambling items in Metman township of Shan State (North), and such information has already been released on 12 and 13 May.

The combined force continued investigation on 13 May evening in area in east of Thanlwin River in Metmung township, and about 42,000 metres south west of Metmung, they found and seized one building measuring 240 feet by 60 feet, one operational building measuring 132 feet by 40 feet, two operational buildings measuring 84 feet by 40 feet, one hall measuring 70 feet by 25 feet, one residential building measuring 60 feet by 10 feet, two residential buildings measuring 60 feet by 20 feet, one residential building measuring 20 feet by 15 feet, one residential building measuring 40 feet by 20 feet, one building with three toilets measuring about 20 feet by 10 feet, one bulldozer that had been burned and

destroyed, one residential building measuring 30 feet by 15 feet, two gambling halls measuring 100 feet by 36 feet each, one toilet building measuring 40 feet by 10 feet, one kitchen building measuring 40 feet by 40 feet, 257 tables measuring 4 feet by 3 feet, 26 square steel tables measuring 4 feet on each side, 10 outdoor air-conditioners, one table measuring 8.5 feet, 17 beds, 22 four-inch mattresses, five indoor air-conditioners, six small refrigerators, four large refrigerators, six rice cookers, eight upright refrigerators, two large generators, one eye-testing machine, 63 small table fans, five card tables, two mahjong sets, four fish-shooting game machines, three billiard tables, seven slot game machines, one three-door refrigerator, two gas stoves, 15 gas cylinders, 38 standing fans, three power stations, 398 plywood boards, 48 sacks of rice and other related materials used in online scam and gambling operations.

Yesterday morning, the combined team also seized one operational tent measuring 50 feet by 20 feet, four residential tents, one resting tent, one kitchen tent, 22 gas cylinders, four refrigerators, one rice cooker, one portable generator and one desktop computer used in online scam and gambling activities about 40,000 metres south west of Metman.

Moreover, at noon, they arrested one illegal Chinese national about 44,000 metres southwest of Metmung near the Thanlwin River and another nine illegal Chinese nationals about 44,500 metres southwest of the town. The 10 individuals were involved in online scams and gambling operations and had been attempting to evade arrest.

The seized items will be managed in accordance with the procedures, and the offenders will be taken action under the law. — MNA/KTZH



Magway Region sets guaranteed prices to boost oil crop cultivation

ACCORDING to U San Tun Lwin, Chairman of the Myanmar Edible Oil Millers Association, guaranteed crop prices have been set in Magway Region, a major oil crop-producing area, with the aim of encouraging farmers cultivating oil crops such as groundnuts, white sesame and brown sesame to expand their cultivation further.

Magway Region has more than 6.4 million acres of cultivated farmland for various crops, of which over 2.7 million acres are dedicated to oil crops, accounting for 42 per cent of the total cultivated area.

“For the coming harvest season, depending on product quality, the guaranteed price for one basket of unshelled groundnuts has been set at K40,000, white sesame at between K130,000 and K150,000 per basket, and brown sesame at between K100,000 and K120,000 per basket. At present, rainfall has already begun in Magway Region, so the cultivation of groundnuts, sesame and sunflower has started. Myanmar’s edible oil sector has development opportunities, but it is also facing challenges such as energy shortages, weak value-added production, the need to modernise machinery, and market-related difficulties,” said U San Tun Lwin.

Due to insufficient domestic edible oil production, Myanmar still has to import palm oil from abroad. During the 2025-2026 financial year, nearly 8.7 million acres of groundnuts, sesame, sunflower, mustard, niger and soybean were targeted for cultivation, and it is estimated that around 860,000 tonnes of edible oil could be produced if the oil crops are processed. — ASH/MKKS



This image displays an oil crop plantation in Magway Region.

OPINION

Building happy and prosperous families for a better future

ON the occasion of the International Day of Families, which falls on 15 May 2026, The Global New Light of Myanmar extends its heartfelt wishes to families around the world for good health, happiness, and the strength to successfully overcome the challenges of daily life. In reality, as the world has increasingly accepted a paradigm of globalization like one global village, families of different peoples and nations have, in fact, become one global family, and the world itself has become a family world.

Peoples from all countries need to shape their families to become prosperous ones with equality among family members and child well-being. They have the right to shape the future of their families. As such, their families must be strong in both physical and mental well-being. They have to strive to build a secure future that enables future generations to be able to enjoy a better life. What a wonderful goal!

and prosperous.

Peoples from all countries need to shape their families to become prosperous ones with equality among family members and child well-being. They have the right to shape the future of their families. As such, their families must be strong in both physical and mental well-being. They have to strive to build a secure future that enables future generations to be able to enjoy a better life. What a wonderful goal!

The United Nations has adopted the theme for 2026's commemorative day as "Families, Inequalities and Child Wellbeing". The United Nations aims that the theme calls for stronger investment in integrated, family-oriented policies to reduce disparities and support healthy child development. It will emphasize the need for integrated social protection systems, including child benefits, parental leave, affordable childcare and early education, to strengthen family resilience, reduce poverty and promote equal opportunities.

People from diverse communities, cultures, and religions all certainly hope to enjoy the fruits of peace and stability within their families. If possible, all living beings, including humans, wish to avoid hardships and live in peace, happiness, and prosperity. In reality, people around the world struggle day by day to overcome the difficulties they face in their lives.

However, they all have to notice they all experience similar difficulties, challenges and obstacles in their lives, and they have to overcome them to be resolved successfully. In fact, it is the nature of life. No one can deny it and avoid it. As such, they all have to strive to face these challenges bravely, but they need to join hands with one another. They all need to lend a helping hand to one another with affection, sympathy and compassion, discarding hatred, grudges and retaliation against others. They should also be mindful not to commit intentional and unintentional actions that may harm others. If so, all societies and communities will be peaceful, happy

Simple Living and Inner Peace

True simple living is not the absence of possessions, but the profound realization of needing no more—lightening our internal load to transform a burdened journey into a graceful flight.

By AUGUSTIN

AS the world speeds up, we often find ourselves increasingly breathless. Simple living is not about having "nothing"; it is the profound realization of needing "no more". It is like rowing a boat through the heavy currents of modern materialism. When the journey becomes exhausting, we lighten our load by tossing unnecessary baggage overboard, allowing us to glide forward with ease.

The wisdom that "chasing endless desires leads to misery" acts as a lighthouse amidst life's storms. Letting go of things that hurt to hold onto is not a defeat; it is a liberation. Only by slowing the momentum of greed can we cherish the greatest treasure: contentment. A meaningful life is not a mansion built of cravings, but a palace founded on the appreciation of what we already have.

The Mastery of Desires

We often strive to be the "ocean", yet we only truly need a "glass of water" to survive. Human nature allows us to be satisfied with a single drink, yet we exhaust ourselves trying to embrace the entire sea. This greed is like trying to own an island while drowning in its waves.

Craving everything we see is like feeding fuel to a fire; the more we add, the hotter it burns, eventually turning our inner peace to ash. Life is like a painting – beauty does not come from using every colour, but from removing unnecessary strokes to reveal a masterpiece.

The Japanese concept of "Ma" (Negative Space) offers a sanctuary for the soul. "Ma" refers to the empty space between objects. Just as a room needs empty space for airflow, a life needs "white space" to breathe. After World War II, Japan used

this "creative emptiness" to rebuild from ruins. By removing the clutter, we give our spirits room to dance.

Inner Serenity

Modern competition is like "drawing on water" – no matter how much effort you put in, the image vanishes with the next wave. Chasing these fleeting things is like a child trying to catch their own shadow. If you spend your life stepping in everyone else's footprints, your feet will only grow weary. You cannot find rest while wandering on paths cleared by others.

Trying to keep up with every trend or new gadget is like trying to breathe through someone else's nose. As long as you rely on others' lungs, you will never taste the air of true existence. A bird in a golden cage may have food, but the bird in the sky has freedom. Accepting your reality

is like building a private island of peace in a noisy world.

In many cultures, the inability to say "no" out of politeness is like "honey-coated poison". Trying to please everyone is like pouring water into a leaky pot – it is exhausting and never-ending. Declaring "no" to meaningless social obligations isn't an insult to others; it is building a fence around your soul's garden so your inner flowers can bloom.

Silence Amidst the Noise

Even tech giants like Steve Jobs turned to Zen meditation to find clarity among complex circuits. It is about finding the stillness at the bottom of the ocean while the surface is stormy. When the world's noise can no longer disturb your internal "quiet pond", you become like a lotus – rising from the mud to bloom in purity.

The Middle Path and Contentment

The Middle Path (Majjhima Patipada) is the ultimate goal of simple living. It is like a traveller resting under a tree – not so cold that they fall into a deep sleep, and not so hot that they cannot continue. Like a lute string, if life is too tight, it snaps; if it is too loose, it makes no music.

Contentment is about nurturing your life like a small potted plant. Without it, even a person who owns a mountain of gold remains a beggar in spirit. Cherishing the love and opportunities you currently have is like smelling the simple flowers in your own yard rather than staring at distant clouds.

Life should not be a paper boat burdened with baggage. It should be a paper plane, catching the wind and soaring gracefully. When we drop the heavy weights of greed and value simple beauty, we achieve the most artistic way of living.



The Pendulum of Trust: What Psychology, Neuroscience, and Buddhism Teach Us About Human Judgement

BY KHIN MAUNG MYINT

IN modern society, trust is often treated as either a virtue or a weakness. We are encouraged to "trust people" while simultaneously warned to "trust no one". Between these opposing messages lies an important psychological truth: healthy living depends not on absolute trust or total suspicion, but on the ability to balance both.

Perhaps the human mind resembles a pendulum clock.

A pendulum that swings too far in one direction loses balance. Yet one that remains permanently fixed in the centre becomes useless – a dead clock. As the old proverb reminds us, even a stopped clock is right twice a day, but it no longer adapts to reality. In much the same way, a person whose thinking becomes rigid – permanently trusting or permanently mistrustful – risks psychological stagnation.

The Psychological Origins of Trust

Developmental psychologist Erik Erikson famously proposed that human development begins with a stage called Trust versus Mistrust. During infancy, children learn whether the world is safe and dependable through interactions with caregivers. Warmth, predictability, and protection foster trust; inconsistency or neglect may encourage mistrust.

However, Erikson did not view trust as a fixed childhood achievement. Rather, it evolves across the lifespan. Adult experiences – relationships, betrayals, disappointments, and recoveries – continuously reshape how individuals perceive others.

Excessive trust may leave one vulnerable to manipulation, deception, or exploitation. On the other hand, chronic mistrust can imprison a person emotionally, leading to isolation, suspicion, and loneliness. Psychological maturity, therefore, requires what some scholars describe as "earned trust" – confidence informed by experience and tempered by judgement.

What Happens in the Brain?

Modern neuroscience offers a biological explanation for these psychological patterns.

The brain constantly negotiates between safety and threat through the interaction of several systems. The amygdala functions as an emotional alarm system, rapidly detecting potential dangers. The prefrontal cortex,

located behind the forehead, serves as a regulatory centre that evaluates evidence, weighs consequences, and moderates impulsive reactions. Meanwhile, the hippocampus helps store memories of previous experiences, including reliability, betrayal, fear, and comfort.

When these systems function harmoniously, people are generally able to judge situations wisely. But difficulties emerge when the brain's metaphorical "ticks and tocks" fail to synchronize.

If emotional alarm signals overwhelm rational assessment, anxiety or excessive suspicion may develop. Conversely, if rational thinking dismisses emotional warning signs entirely, individuals may ignore risks and trust too easily. Mental well-being, therefore, depends not on eliminating emotional reactions but on maintaining balance between instinct and reasoning.

An important concept in neuroscience is Neuroplasticity – the brain's ability to change and reorganize itself through experience. Repeated betrayal may strengthen neural pathways associated with mistrust, while repeated experiences of kindness and reliability may reinforce confidence and openness. Put simply, experience shapes both memory and expectation.

A Buddhist Perspective on Balance

Interestingly, these scientific insights resonate strongly with Buddhist philosophy.

Buddhism rarely advocates extremes. The Middle Way encourages individuals to avoid rigid positions and cultivate balanced understanding. In Buddhist thought, trust (Saddhā) is not blind obedience. Rather, it is confidence that grows through careful observation and personal experience.

The Kalama Sutta, often described as one of Buddhism's most rational teachings, advises people not to accept claims merely because of tradition, authority, or popular belief. Instead, individuals are encouraged to examine evidence and judge whether ideas lead to well-being or harm. This bears striking similarities to contemporary ideas of critical thinking and informed trust.

Equally relevant is the Buddhist concept of equanimity (Upekkhā) – maintaining emotional steadiness without becoming emotionally detached. A balanced mind neither



trusts recklessly nor mistrusts reflexively.

Keeping the Mind's Clock in Good Time
Healthy psychological functioning may therefore resemble a well-regulated clock: the pendulum continues to swing, but remains connected to a stable centre.

Life inevitably presents disappointments, betrayals, kindness, and renewal. The challenge is not to become permanently hardened or permanently naive. Rather, wisdom lies in flexibility – in learning when to trust, when to question, and when to pause before reacting.

Perhaps maturity is not achieved by stopping the pendulum, but by learning how to let it move without losing rhythm. In an increasingly polarised and uncertain world, the greatest psychological strength may simply be this: the ability to remain open-hearted, yet discerning.

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NATIONAL BUSINESS

Stock trading value on YSX estimated at over K171M on 12 May

CONTINUOUS trading value of the eight listed companies on the main board of the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) amounted to K171 million on 12 May from 29,327 shares traded, according to YSX's market data.

YSX's continuous trading value in May was recorded at K85 million (17,156 shares) on 4 May, K41 million (12,078 shares) on 5 May, over K65 million (8,647 shares) on 6 May, K59 million (10,772 shares) on 7 May, K88 million (19,055 shares) on 8 May and K38 million (9,220 shares) on 11 May.

At present, shares of eight listed companies: First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar

Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB), First Private Bank (FPB), TMH Telecom Public Co Ltd (TMH), the Ever Flow River Group Public Co Ltd (EFR), Amata Holding Public Co Ltd (AMATA), and Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Co Ltd (MAEX) are traded in the security market (main board).

Share prices at the closing time of trading on 12 May were registered at K13,500 per unit of FMI, K6,300 for MTSH, K9,400 for MCB, K4,400 for FPB, K3,250 for TMH, K1,750 for EFR, K3,950 for AMATA and K4,100 for MAEX.

Additionally, Myanma Agricultural & General Development Public Co Ltd (MAGDBL)

and GBS Agricultural Services Public Co Ltd A (SPGB) are registered companies on the Pre-Listing Board. On 12 May, 376 shares of MAGDBL (K3,650 per unit) and 100 shares of ASPGB (K38,000) were traded on the pre-listing board.

Furthermore, the grand trading values of the eight listed companies on the exchange were recorded at K1.63 million from 332,880 shares in April, K2.889 billion from 693,616 shares traded in March 2026, K1.7 billion with 469,160 shares and K1.22 billion with 382,083 shares traded in January, according to YSX's monthly report. — ASH/KK



This photo shows market observers at the Yangon Stock Exchange.

CBM to sell over US\$1.9M to edible oil, CMP companies

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US\$1.8 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$137,260 to CMP companies on 13 May.

CBM over \$2.037 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$11,535 to CMP companies on 12 May.

CBM also sold \$2.17 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$150 to CMP companies on 11 May. Additionally, CBM sold \$1.3 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$334,400 to CMP companies on 8 May.

Next, CBM sold over \$1.337 million to edible oil-importing companies, over \$10,490 to CMP companies and \$1 million to LNG-importing companies on 7 May.

CBM injected forex into the market, with a view to curbing the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. Accord-



The USD exchange rate has steadied following the CBM's announcement, allowing for free trading at market prices. PHOTO: XINHUA

ing to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing

laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

DUHD calls for bids for construction work

THE Department of Urban and Housing Development under the Ministry of Construction invited an open tender for construction projects to be implemented under the Union Capital Expenditure for the 2026-2027 financial year. The projects are Lot 1 (construction of an earthen embankment (1,950 feet by 50 feet) and gravel road paving (1,950 feet by 22 feet by 8 feet) on the connecting road from SEZ Main Road in front of Gate 2 of the Thilawa Special Economic Zone A to Thilawa Garden Housing, Thanlyin Township, Lot 2 (construction of two steel structure shop houses (94 feet by 18 feet) and related works at the Yoma Yeiktha Low-Cost Housing, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Lot 3 (installation of a water pipeline and related works (Block A, B & C) at the Thilawa Garden Housing Project, Thanlyin Township, Lot 4 (maintenance of water pipeline and related accessories for water supply (Block B & C) currently

sold to Myanma Port Authority and four companies in foreign currency and Myanmar kyat from the Thilawa Reservoir, Thanlyin Township, Lot 5 (replacement of switchgear at the (66/11) kV, (2 by 30) MVA Ayawun Substation, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Lot 6 (repair of switchgear at the (66/11) kV, (2 by 20) MVA Yadana Substation, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, and Lot 7 (replacement of switchgear at the (66/11) kV, (2 by 30) MVA Yadana Substation, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township).

Tender forms are available by 21 May. The deadline for submission of tender proposals is 3 pm on 22 May. The date, time, and venue for the tender opening will be announced later.

Tender forms can be submitted at the DUHD located at office 40, Nay Pyi Taw, at 09 695623355, according to the Tender Accepting and Evaluation Committee. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Foreign Exchange Rate in the Market on 14 May 2026

THE foreign currency amount traded in the foreign exchange market was for the import of edible oil, fuel oil, car/motorcycle spare parts, pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical raw materials, industrial raw materials, fertilizers, packaging materials, consumer goods, animal feed, and telecommunications equipment. From the CMP sector revenue, US\$3.26 million was contributed to the edible oil sector; US\$0.01 million to the CMP sector, and US\$2 million to the LNG sector. — MNA

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	India rupee
Exchange rates	3,664.80~3,664.90	558.10~558.30	125.50~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	17,325,060.49	32,463,373.00	29,139,201.41	
The amount sold by CBM to the market				

Real Madrid win legal battle over Bernabeu concert noise

Real Madrid won a legal battle over stadium concert noise.

REAL Madrid said Wednesday they have won a legal battle in their dispute with a residents association complaining about “noise pollution” generated by concerts held at their Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

A Spanish judge said in January all concerts held at the stadium, including that of Amer-

ican superstar Taylor Swift, had exceeded noise limits and there were sufficient “indications” to consider the reported nuisances a criminal offence.

The proceedings targeted the company Real Madrid Estadio, which runs the iconic stadium, reopened in 2023 after a rebuild, as well as its adminis-



This picture taken on 8 October 2024 shows banners put on the balconies by neighbours protesting against concerts at Real Madrid’s Santiago Bernabeu stadium. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

trator, Jose Angel Sanchez, the right-hand man of club president Florentino Perez.

The court “clearly and cate-

gorically concludes that neither Jose Angel Sanchez... nor Real Madrid Estadio SL bear responsibility for any criminal offence

in relation to the concerts held at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium,” said Real Madrid in a statement. — AFP

Alia Bhatt shines at Cannes 2026

BOLLYWOOD actress Alia Bhatt stole the spotlight with her red carpet arrival in a sculpted corseted silhouette at the opening ceremony of Cannes Film Festival 2026.

On the opening day of the film festival, Alia Bhatt donned the fashion designer Tamara Ralph’s ensemble, which fea-

ture a sculpted corseted silhouette, plunging neckline, sweeping train, and a dreamy chiffon scarf trailing behind her.

The ‘Jigra’ actress complemented her outfit with the Golconda Rose jewellery, which is a celebration of Amrapali’s legacy and Jaipur’s timeless craftsmanship. — ANI



On the opening day of the film festival, Alia Bhatt donned the fashion designer Tamara Ralph’s ensemble. **PHOTO: ANI**

Paramount defends Warner bid amid California probe

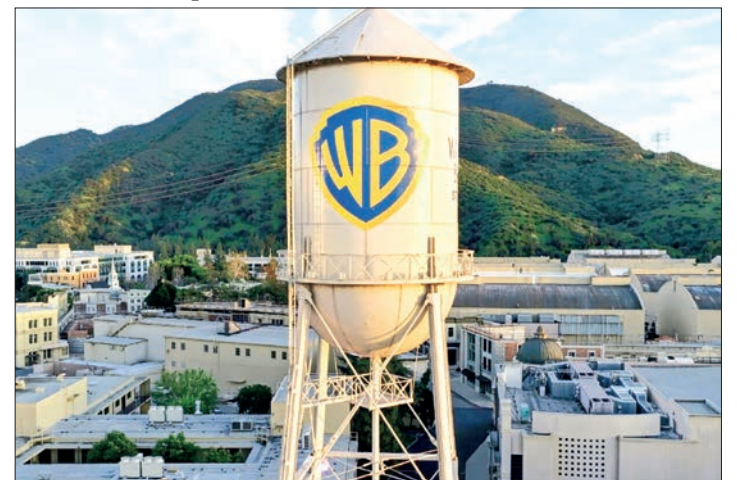
PARAMOUNT Skydance has defended its attempt to buy the legendary Warner Bros studio, in a letter to California’s top lawyer whose office is probing the \$110 billion bid, US media reported Tuesday.

The move comes amid growing calls for regulators to block the takeover, with creators in Hollywood fearing the highly leveraged buyout will mean job cuts and a drastically scaled back movie slate, with production going straight to streaming.

In a letter addressed to state Attorney General Rob Bonta, Paramount says it is deeply committed to producing films and showing them in cinemas. “Theatrical runs increase awareness and antic-

ipation through marketing and word-of-mouth, and then help convert that demand into viewing when the title later becomes available (and promoted) on

the platform,” reads the letter, sent on 7 May by Paramount’s Chief Legal Officer Makan Delrahim, according to the news site Semafor. — AFP



Hollywood is fretting over the possible impact on the movie industry if the Paramount bid for Warner Bros is approved. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Malaysia’s population reaches 34.4 mln

MALAYSIA’S total population was estimated at 34.4 million in the first quarter of 2026, up from 34.2 million a year earlier, a slower growth rate of 0.5 per cent compared to 0.9 per cent previously, official data

showed on Thursday.

The composition of citizens and non-citizens remained unchanged at 90.1 per cent and 9.9 per cent, respectively, the Department of Statistics Malaysia said in

a statement.

The male population increased to 18 million from 17.9 million, while the female population rose slightly to 16.3 million from 16.2 million over the same period. — Xinhua

ECONOMY WORLD

UK-India textile machinery corridor launched in Mumbai

The initiative marks the first dedicated coalition of its kind focused exclusively on textile machinery collaboration between the two countries.



With around 53 per cent of Indian mills planning machinery upgrades within the next one to three years, access to advanced and reliable technology is becoming increasingly critical. **PHOTO: ANI**

THE British Textile Machinery Association (BTMA), in collaboration with India ITME Society on Thursday formally launched the UK-India Textile Machinery Coalition (UKITMC) at the India ITME Centre in Mumbai, establishing a structured bilateral trade corridor between the United Kingdom and India's textile machinery sectors.

The initiative marks the first dedicated coalition of its kind focused exclusively on textile machinery collaboration between the two countries.

The launch was inaugurated by Vrunda Desai, Textile Commissioner of India, in the presence of Sujith Thomas from the Department for Business

and Trade (DBT), British Deputy High Commission.

Key attendees for the launch included UK DBT Trade Counsellor Mark Birrell, BTMA CEO Jason Kent, and India ITME Society Chairman Ketan Sanghvi.

The UKITMC is designed as a long-term platform to connect Indian textile manufacturers with advanced UK machinery and technology providers.

It aims to facilitate technology transfer, encourage joint partnerships, and accelerate the adoption of automation, digitalization, and sustainable manufacturing practices across India's textile value chain. — ANI

BRIEFS: ECON

Japan govt mulling extra budget for FY 2026

THE Japanese government is considering a supplementary budget for fiscal 2026 to ease the impact of elevated crude oil prices stemming from the Middle East conflict, government sources said Thursday, as calls grow among ruling and opposition parties for one to be compiled.

The government has set aside over 1 trillion yen (\$6.3 billion), including reserve funds in the fiscal 2025 budget, to finance measures to respond to rising living costs, such as subsidies to curb surging gasoline prices. But concern is growing that they could run out amid uncertainty over the Iran conflict.

Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi told a Diet committee as recently as Monday that she does not see the immediate need to compile a supplementary budget, while noting the government will closely monitor price movements to respond flexibly. — Kyodo

New Zealand gas reserves hit record low

New Zealand's natural gas reserves declined to their lowest level in two decades, official data showed Thursday, prompting government efforts to bolster energy security amid falling production.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment reported that proven plus probable reserves fell 23 per cent to 731 petajoules as of 1 January 2026, the lowest since records began 20 years ago.

The Pohokura field, New Zealand's largest gas and condensate field, saw the largest cut of 129 petajoules due to well underperformance, according to the annual petroleum reserves data.

"The report also shows production is falling faster than expected. The Maui field, one of New Zealand's biggest, is set to stop producing this year. In total, eight gas fields are expected to close between now and 2036," Energy Minister Simeon Brown said in a statement. — Xinhua

Venezuela begins to rework foreign debt, state oil company arrears

VENEZUELA has begun a "comprehensive and orderly process" to restructure the country's foreign debt and that of the state-owned oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA), the government announced Wednesday.

The measure aims to lighten the country's financial burden and redirect resources towards national economic recovery, according to an official release posted by Venezuelan Communication and Information Minister Miguel Perez Pirela on Telegram.

Venezuela has been meeting its international financial obligations over the years but its ability to pay has been affected since 2017 by "unilateral coercive measures", or sanctions, the government said.

Restructuring seeks to "put the economy at the ser-

vice of the Venezuelan people and free the country from the burden of accumulated debt", while promoting economic growth and the well-being of the people, it said.

Authorities expect to secure "substantial debt relief", the government said, adding Venezuela "will fulfill its commitments in a sustainable manner". — Xinhua



This marks the first formal attempt to overhaul the country's massive debt obligations since it fell into a protracted default in late 2017.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Xi meets US entrepreneurs accompanying Trump on China visit

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Thursday met here with US entrepreneurs accompanying President Donald Trump on his visit to China.

Trump said that he had brought with him outstanding representatives from the US business community, all of whom respect and value China, and that he encourages them to

expand cooperation with China. He introduced the entrepreneurs to Xi one by one.

The US entrepreneurs said that they attach great importance to the Chinese market, and hope to deepen their business operations in China and strengthen cooperation with China. Xi said that US companies are deeply

involved in China's reform and opening up, and both sides have benefited from this. Noting that China's door will only open wider, Xi said China welcomes the United States to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation with China, and expressed belief that US companies will enjoy even broader prospects in China. — Xinhua



Musk is part of a delegation of business leaders to China, where his interests include Tesla's electric vehicle factory and solar panels. This aerial photo taken on 20 August 2022 shows the Tesla Gigafactory in the Lin-gang Special Area of China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone in east China's Shanghai. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ JIN LIWANG/XINHUA/ FILE**

Australia secures fertilizer shipments amid global supply risks

THE Australian government said Thursday it had secured about 90,000 tonnes of agricultural-grade urea to support farmers and safeguard food production amid global supply disruptions tied to Middle East tensions.

The shipments mark the first deliveries under the government's new Strategic Reserve powers, said a government statement.

More shipments are expected in the coming weeks, building on the 250,000-tonne supply deal

struck with Indonesia's state producer PT Pupuk, it said, adding the move aimed to provide certainty for farmers during planting decisions, ensuring domestic and export food supply. The government has also announced a 7.5-billion-Australian-dollar (US\$5.43-billion) fuel and fertilizer security facility to boost storage and supply, alongside measures to streamline fertilizer imports and strengthen industry coordination. — Xinhua



The 2026 war in Iran has severely disrupted global fertilizer supplies, with over 30 per cent of global urea and 20 per cent of phosphorus passing through the blocked Strait of Hormuz. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/GPA**

NOTICE FOR CHANGING OF PRODUCT TRADE NAME

The following herbicide distributed by Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co., Ltd has been registered under Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar. Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co.,Ltd is now would like to change its product trade name as mentioned below. Any objection regarding to this trade name changes can notify to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

No	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type and Number
1.	Shwe Nagar Pro Tip	Htet Shinn Plus	Bentazone 48 % SL	Provisional / P2026-6929

Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co.,Ltd. No-402, U Phoe Hlaing St, Shwe Lin Pan Industrial Zone, Hlaing Thar Yar Tsp, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph - 09 970545006

Notice for Change of Pesticide Trade Name

The foreign manufacturer Agrinova Cropcare Pte., Ltd. will import and distribute the following insecticide registered in Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board Changing trading name.

No.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Reg: Type	Reg: No.
1	Pel Kaung Paung Shin 480 SL	Pica 480 SL	Bentazone 480 g/l SL	Provisional	P2026-6933

It is therefore announced to come and reject within 14 days to joint Secretary, Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein in wishing to make any objection in respect of the said changing trading name of herbicide.

Address- Wi Sar Ra International Co., Ltd.
No. (95-A), Kyaik Wine Pagoda Road, 8th Mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, Myanmar.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V DANUM 175 VOY.NO. (115N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V DANUM 175 VOY.NO. (115N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-5-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (027)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (027)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-5-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

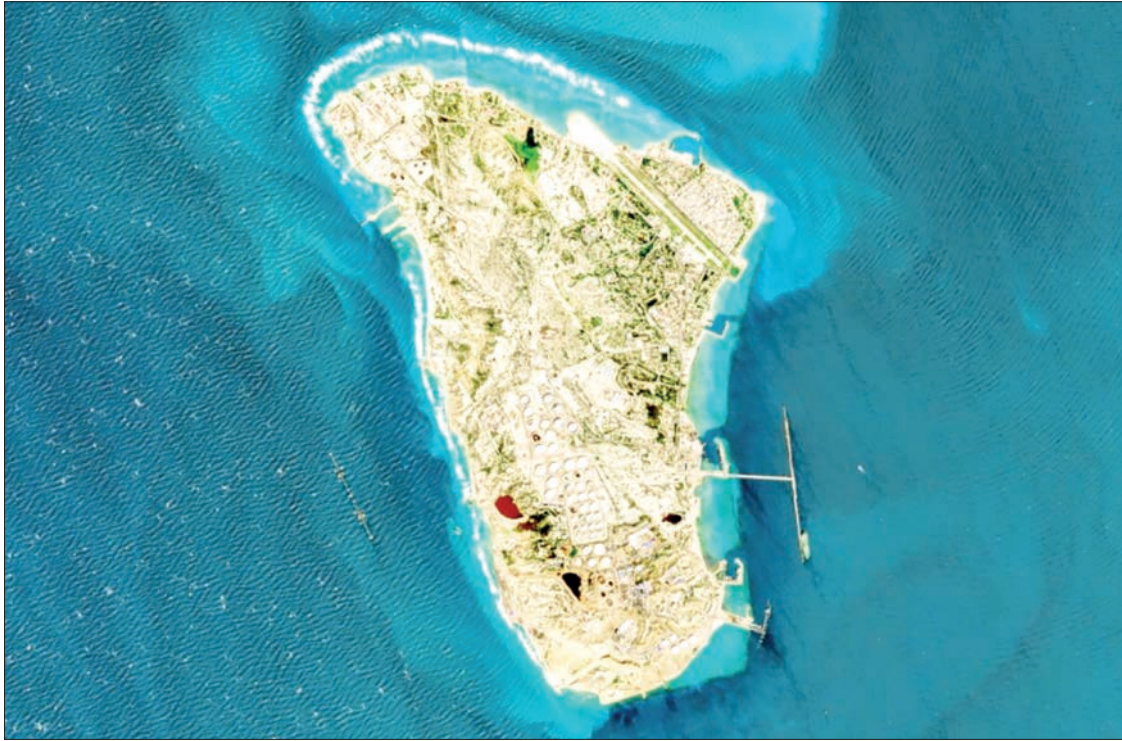
Agent For:

M/S ANDAMAN SEA GATEWAYS GROUP OF COMPANIES LIMITED

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Iran says UAE 'active partner' in US-Israeli war



As of 14 March 2026, CENTCOM confirmed US forces executed a large-scale precision strike, hitting over 90 Iranian military targets on Kharg Island. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Relations between Iran and the UAE have been strained since 28 February when US-Israeli attacks triggered Iranian retaliatory strikes against Israel and US allies in the Gulf, including the UAE.

IRAN'S Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Thursday accused the United Arab Emirates of playing an active role in the US-Israeli war against his country.

"The UAE is an active partner in this aggression, and there is no doubt about it," Araghchi said in a Telegram post while attending a BRICS summit in India.

Araghchi also referred to what Israel has described as a "secret" meeting in the UAE during the war between Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan — a visit Abu Dhabi has denied took place.

"I must say that the UAE was directly involved in the act of aggression against my country. When this aggression began, they even refused to condemn it," Araghchi said.

"It also became clear that they participated in these attacks and may have even acted directly against us," he added. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

WHO confirms eight cases of Andes hantavirus in outbreak

EIGHT people infected in the hantavirus outbreak aboard the MV Hondius cruise ship have tested positive for the Andes virus, the only strain transmitted between humans, the World Health Organization said Wednesday. "Eight cases were laboratory-confirmed for Andes virus (ANDV) infection, two are probable, and one case remains inconclusive and undergoing further testing," the UN health agency said in its latest update on the outbreak.

Three people from the ship have died since it set sail from Argentina on 1 April for a cruise across the Atlantic Ocean. — AFP

UK health minister Streeting resigns

Wes Streeting announced Thursday that he has resigned as Britain's health minister, paving the way for a potential leadership challenge against embattled Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

In his resignation letter to the prime minister, which Streeting posted on X, he said he had "lost confidence" in Starmer's leadership and "it is now clear that you will not lead the Labour Party into the next general election". — AFP

South Africa court clears way for Zuma's arms graft trial

A South African court ruled Thursday that a long-running arms deal corruption case against former president Jacob Zuma and French defence giant Thales can proceed, rejecting bids to delay the trial.

The case stems from a 1990s \$2 billion arms deal to purchase fighter jets, patrol boats and other military equipment from five European defence companies. Zuma is accused of taking bribes from Thales in exchange for protecting the firm from an investigation into the deal, when he was deputy president. — AFP

Amazon rainforest 'under attack' from organized crime: report

ORGANIZED crime in South America is a growing threat to the Amazon rainforest, according to a report published Tuesday, as the encroachment of criminal groups into protected areas fuels violence and sets back environmental preservation in the world's largest tropical rainforest.

The report by the Interna-

tional Crisis Group think tank said the search for new drug trafficking routes and illegal mining areas is compelling organized crime rings to expand their reach in the Amazon basin, leading to devastating effects on the environment.

The Amazon "is under attack from organized crime", the report concluded.

"Organized crime has become one of the main obstacles to efforts to stop environmental damage in the Amazon," said Bram Ebus, a Crisis Group expert.

"What used to be primarily a conservation challenge has become a political and security crisis," he added. — AFP



Illegal gold miners in the Brazilian Amazon devastate pristine rainforests, contaminate vital waterways with toxic mercury, and trigger severe humanitarian and health crises for indigenous communities.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE

SPORTS

MFF to hold U15 Youth League in four zones

THE Myanmar Football Federation will hold the MFF U15 Youth League in four zones to help improve the quality of young footballers and develop future talents.

The tournament will be divided into Yangon, Mandalay, Taunggyi and Mawlamyine zones to allow nationwide participation.

The Yangon Zone second stage will feature 20 teams and will be played in a single round-robin format from 13 June to 13 December. The Mandalay, Taunggyi, and Mawlamyine zones will each feature eight teams competing in a double round-robin format.

The final stage will include the



East Dagon Star and Future Star compete in the Yangon Zone qualifiers.

best eight teams: four from Yangon, second-placed team from the other three zonal champions and the best zones. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

MFF amateur futsal tournament to begin in Jun

THE Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee of the Myanmar Football Federation will hold the 2026 MFF Amateur Futsal Tournament in early June with participation of 80 teams.

Matches will be played at the MFF Futsal Indoor Stadium at Thuwunna Stadium and the YCDC Marga Futsal Court in Thingangyun Township.

The four semi-finalists will qualify for the MFF Futsal Championship later this year, while the two finalists will earn a chance to compete for promotion to the next season's MFF Futsal League-2 through play-off matches against the two relegated League-2 teams.

Teams can register from 19 May to 23 May with an entry fee of K300,000 and a deposit of K200,000. Rewards include K7 million for champions, K5 million for runners-up and K3 million for third place.

Current and former national team, youth national team, futsal league and domestic league players will not be allowed to compete. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Inter Milan win Italian Cup to secure domestic double



Lautaro Martinez scores Inter Milan's second goal in the Italian Cup final, won 2-0 against Lazio. PHOTO: AFP

INTER Milan won the Italian Cup on Wednesday after beating Lazio 2-0 and completing a domestic double alongside their 21st Serie A title.

An Adam Marusic own goal and Lautaro Martinez's tap-in,

both in the first half, gave Inter both a comfortable victory in Rome and a 10th Cup triumph.

"We deserved the trophies after a good season," said Inter coach Cristian Chivu to Mediaset.

"Winning the league and cup is never something you can take for granted. We're very happy."

For Lazio it was another depressing note of a long, arduous season in which their hardcore supporters have boycotted home matches in protest at long-time owner Claudio Lotito's stewardship of the club.

Their fans did show up for the final, making a fair old racket until Martinez doubled Inter's lead in the 35th minute, and chanting "Lotito piece of shit" towards the final whistle.

But they will again be absent from the stands at weekend for the Rome derby in which their hated local rivals Roma could take a big step towards the Champions League. — AFP

FIFA announces cross-border anti-doping cooperation for 2026 World Cup

FIFA on Wednesday announced a joint anti-doping initiative with agencies from the United States, Canada and Mexico ahead of the 2026 World Cup, which will be co-hosted across the three countries from 11 June to 19 July.

The tournament, which will feature 48 teams for the first time, will be the largest World Cup in history and is expected to involve a significantly expanded testing and operational programme across 16 host cities.

The US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), Sport Integrity Canada and Mexico's National Anti-Doping Committee (MEX-NADO) will assist FIFA with both pre-tournament and in-competition testing. — Xinhua

Wood urges New Zealand to 'create some history' at World Cup

CHRIS Wood urged New Zealand to "create some history" after he was named captain Thursday of the World Cup squad who will be chasing a first-ever win at the global showpiece.

Prolific Nottingham Forest striker Wood will lead the lowest-ranked side at this year's tournament, which begins next month in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

The All Whites are 85th in the FIFA rankings and failed to win a match at their two previous appearances, including 2010 in South Africa, when Wood made three appearances as a substitute.

Wood, who has scored 45 goals in 88 internationals, believes New Zealand have the depth and quality to challenge their Group G opponents Iran, Egypt and Belgium.

"It's been a long time, 16 years, since we've been in the World Cup," Wood said via video link at the squad



New Zealand captain Chris Wood wants his team to "create some history" at next month's World Cup. PHOTO: AFP

announcement in Auckland.

"I can't wait to share the moment with this team and hopefully create some history.

"I hope that we can do everybody proud and show the world what we're capable of." — AFP



World Xi holds talks with Trump in Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with visiting US President Donald Trump at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Thursday.

Transformation not seen in a century is accelerating across the globe, and the international situation is fluid and turbulent, said Xi.

"Can China and the United States overcome the Thucydides Trap and create a new paradigm of major-country relations? Can we meet global challenges together and provide greater stability for the world? Can we build a bright future together for our bilateral relations in the interest of the well-being of the two peoples and the future of humanity? These are the questions vital to history, to the world and to the people," said Xi.

They are the questions of the times that the leaders of major countries need to answer together, he added.

"I look forward to working together with you to set the course and steer the giant ship of China-US relations, so as to make 2026 a historic, landmark year that opens up a new chapter in China-US relations," he said.

"I have agreed with President Trump on a new vision of building a constructive China-US relationship of strategic stability," Xi said.

The new vision will provide strategic guidance for bilateral relations over the next three years and beyond, and should be welcomed by the people of both countries as well as the international community, he said.

The "constructive strategic stability" should be a positive stability with cooperation as the mainstay, a sound stability with moderate competition, a constant stability with manageable differences,

The building of a constructive China-US relationship of strategic stability should not be a mere slogan, but concrete action taken by both sides towards the same goal.



Chinese President Xi Jinping holds talks with US President Donald Trump, who is on a state visit to China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, 14 May 2026. **PHOTO: DING LIN/XINHUA**

and an enduring stability with promises of peace, Xi said.

The building of a constructive China-US relationship of strategic stability

should not be a mere slogan, but concrete action taken by both sides towards the same goal, he added.

China-US economic ties are mutually

beneficial and win-win in nature, said Xi. "Where disagreements and frictions exist, equal-footed consultation is the only right choice," he said. — Xinhua



Prime Minister Modi joined the BRICS ministers and delegates for the official family photo. **PHOTO: ANI**

PM Modi meets Russian, Iranian, Brazilian and other BRICS foreign ministers

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday met several foreign ministers attending the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi, including Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, South African Foreign Minister Ronald Lamola and Brazilian Foreign Minister Mauro Vieira. The meetings took place on the sidelines of the BRICS Foreign Ministers' gathering being hosted in the Indian capital. Prime Minister Modi also joined

the visiting ministers and delegates for the official BRICS family photo, which brought together representatives of member countries and partner nations participating in the high-level diplomatic engagement.

Earlier in the day, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar welcomed Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov at Bharat Mandapam for the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting, marking a key diplomatic engagement. — ANI